

FAMILY HISTORY

ROBERT MCQUEEN LINDSAY (Written by William Lindsay)

Robert McQueen Lindsay was born at Wanlockhead Dumfries, Scotland on August 1799. We know nothing sure about his father. His mothers name is given as Elizabeth Lindsay. And that is practically all we know of her. Wanlockhead where he was born & married and raised most of his family is a small village high up in the Lather hils where the bonnie heather grows on all the hills near by. There are lead mines all around there and most of the men work in the mines, so of course he also became a miner.

As soon as he finished his schooling he went to work in the mines. There was no railroad or public road within ten miles of the village, so they lived in peace and quiet. Very seldom anyone moved away and very rarely did anyone move in. They seem to be honest industrious people and nearly all related by marriage. They were strict observers of the sabbath day.

When about 20 years of age he married Elizabeth Geddis of Leadhills another small village only 2 miles away but in the county of Lanark. She also was born on the 14th of August 1799. They were married in 1819 and lived there until about 1832 when we understand the family moved into Ayrshire where he and his eldest son engaged in taking contracts opening coal mines and sinking pits, also working as coal miners part of the time.

Times were hard and wages low in those days and sometimes even hard to get work at all, so they had to move quite often to keep in employment. About April 1848 the whole family joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, having thoroughly convinced that it was the Gospel taught by Jesus Christ and his Apostles while they were upon the earth. The whole family became active workers in the Church. About 1856 he was seriously burned by fire in an explosion in a coalmine. But by the adminstration of the Elders and the blessings of the Lord he was healed. He was very fond of children but liked to tease them.

He and his wife and daughter Elizabeth came to Utah in 1863, crossing the plains with ox teams. Soon after his arrival in Salt Lake City he was employed as keeper of the gate at the Temple Block.

In the fall of 1868 he went to work on the railroad in Weber Canyon and was accidentally injured. From this hurt he never fully recovered. He died in Salt Lake City on the 23rd of February 1869. He and his wife were a fine old couple, very happy in each others company. They had lived together some fifty years as husband and wife. After his death she made her home with her daughter Mrs. Charles J. Thomas in Salt Lake City. She died October 17, 1873.

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